

DGI

Disseminated Gonorrhea Infection

DGI has been found in 7 men and women living in King and Snohomish counties. All of these people were hospitalized and treated...4 had surgery. Most either used crack cocaine or had sex with someone who used crack. One person was homeless.

DGI is caused by getting infected with a rare type of the bacteria, *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*. If not treated, gonorrhea can spread through the blood-stream and cause DGI. This could lead to infection of the bones, brain or heart and possible death.

Symptoms of typical gonorrhea

- Abnormal discharge from the vagina, penis or butt
 - Pain when you pee
 - Abdominal pain in women
- many women (some men) never have symptoms

Symptoms of DGI

- One or more painful, tender or swollen joints
usually in the knees, elbows or fingers
- Pimple-like or puss-filled bumps
can be bloody or the skin can look black

If you are concerned that you might have gonorrhea,
or if you use crack or have sex with someone you think uses crack, **get tested**.
Condoms can protect you and your sex partners.

If you have any of the DGI symptoms,
Go to the nearest EMERGENCY ROOM...immediately!!!

Take this flyer with you so you will be seen quickly.

Gonorrhea can be treated and cured!
It is very important to catch it early and begin treatment right away.